



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney

Contact: Jim Cross

(316) 269-6481

Headquarters
1200 Epic Center
301 N. Main
Wichita, Kansas 67202
(316)269-6481
FAX (316)269-6484

Topeka Office
444 Quincy
Topeka, Kansas 66683

Kansas City Office
500 State Avenue
Suite 360
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

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PARSONS MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN CRACK COCAINE CASE

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Eddie Jenkins**, 30, Parsons, entered a guilty plea Sept. 22, 2004 before U.S. District Judge John W. Lungstrum to one count of **distributing 4.95 grams of crack cocaine**.

Jenkins admitted at his plea that on Aug. 9, 2002 he invited an undercover officer posing as a drug buyer to his home in Parsons. Jenkins took \$500 from the agent and gave him a plastic bag with what the Kansas Bureau of Investigation laboratory later determined was crack cocaine. He also admitted in his plea that he distributed more than 50 grams of crack cocaine while he was selling illegal drugs from 1999 to early 2004.

Jenkins is scheduled for sentencing Dec. 20. He faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine.

Melgren said Jenkins was one of 18 people charged as part of a two-and-a-half-year investigation into distribution of crack cocaine in southeast Kansas by a number of law enforcement agencies.

Melgren commended the work of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the Parsons Police Department, the Labette County Sheriff's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, the Coffeyville Police Department, the Winfield Police Department, the Joplin, Mo. Police Department, the Labette County Attorney's Office and the Cowley County Attorney's Office in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Rask in the Prosecution.